

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 3953

BRASILIA FOR PRESIDENT'S PARTY

RIO FOR MOOSE

STATE PASS WHITE HOUSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S SPEECH IN NIGERIA

REF: STATE 077923

PARAGRAPHS ONE THROUGH FIVE BELOW ARE AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S
SUGGESTIONS. PARAGRAPHS THEREAFTER ARE AMBASSADOR EASUM'S
COMMENTS.

1. SUGGEST THAT WE CONSIDER DROPPING FIRST SENTENCE OF
SPEECH. PRESIDENT DOESN'T HAVE TO ANNOUNCE THE HISTORIC
FACT THAT HE IS FIRST PRESIDENT TO PAY A STATE VISIT TO
AFRICA. I AM CERTAIN THAT THE PRESS WILL ANNOUNCE IT FOR US.

2. INSERT AFTER PARA. DEALING WITH REMOVING AFRICA FROM
EAST-WEST CONTEXT: "IT IS AFRICANS WHO INSIST THAT THEY
SEEK TRUE NON-ALIGNMENT. AND IF AFRICA IS GOING TO BE
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ALLOWED TO FULFILL ITS DEVELOPMENT DREAMS, IT IS AFRICANS
WHO MUST INSIST THAT EAST AND WEST REGARD THE CONTINENT AS
A ZONE OF PEACE."

3. STRIKE: "BUT THOSE PARTS OF THE SALISBURY PROPOSALS
WHICH ACCORD WITH THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN ARE A
STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION," AND REPLACE WITH "SEC.

VANCE TOLD MR. NKOMO AND MR. MUGABE THAT IT IS NOT OUR INTENTION TO ABANDON THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ANGLO AMERICAN PROPOSALS, TO ACCORD ANY LEGITIMACY TO THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT, OR TO PERSUADE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO ACCEPT THE SALISBURY ARRANGEMENTS." THIS IS A QUOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT NYERERE.

4. THEN, ADD: "THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS HAVE THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS, THE OAU FOREIGN MINISTERS, AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. CLEARLY, THE A.A.P. PROVIDES THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO TRUE MAJORITY RULE IN A FREE AND INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE."

5. ADDITIONAL ISSUES:
NIGERIA MAY EXPRESS CONCERN FOR THE DECLINE OF THE DOLLAR WHICH IS COSTING THEM 300 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER DAY OR 142 MILLION THIS YEAR. WESTERN ECONOMIC SLUGGISHNESS HAS ALSO CURTAILED OIL SALES AND IMPACTS ON DEVELOPMENT PLANS. A SUGGESTION THAT WE EXAMINE A FACILITY THAT EXPEDITES AMERICAN BUSINESS IN NIGERIA COUPLED WITH A NEW ARRANGEMENT FOR PAYMENT FOR NIGERIAN EXPORTS TO U.S. MIGHT HAVE AN IMPACT DOMESTICALLY IN BOTH COUNTRIES.

6. REFERENCE TO "ECONOMIC TIES" IN SENTENCE IN PARAGRAPH 8 THAT BEGINS "THUS WE ARE BOUND TOGETHER" IS UNSUPPORTED BY PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL

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TEXT.

7. SUGGEST FOLLOWING PORTION OF PARAGRAPH 10 BE REMOVED:
"HOWEVER, WE CANNOT BY OURSELVES REMOVE AFRICA FROM THE EAST-WEST CONTEXT."

8. WITH BIAFRA, SHABA, AND OGADEN MUCH IN THEIR MINDS, NIGERIANS WILL BE STRUCK BY THE APPOSITION OF "SELF-DETERMINATION" AND "TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY" IN PARAGRAPH 12.

9. SAME PROBLEM IN PARAGRAPH 17. WE HAVE NOT COME UP WITH A PRECISE ALTERNATIVE FORMULA TO PROPOSE BUT SUGGEST CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO LINKING "SELF-DETERMINATION" WITH MINORITY-RULED STATES.

10. IN PARAGRAPH 23, WE SUGGEST "LESS DEVELOPED NATIONS" BE REPLACED BY "DEVELOPING NATIONS." NIGERIANS IN PARTICULAR ARE APT TO TAKE UMBRAGE AT THE FORMER TERMINOLOGY.

11. IN THE REFERENCE TO THE PEACE CORPS IN PARAGRAPH 25, RECOMMEND THAT THE LAST WORD "YOU" BE REPLACED BY SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES OF "THEIR AFRICAN ASSOCIATES AND CO-WORKERS."

12. IN PARAGRAPH 29, WE SUGGEST EXPANDING THE FIRST SENTENCE AS FOLLOWS "AND I AM GIVING NEW PRIORITY TO US EFFORTS TO IMPROVE HEALTH AROUND THE WORLD."

13. IN PARAGRAPH 37, "THESE AND OTHER NATIONS" MIGHT READ "THESE AND OTHER AFRICAN NATIONS."

14. IN PARAGRAPH 41, SUGGEST DROPPING THE WORD "ONLY" IN THE FIRST SENTENCE.

15. IN PARAGRAPH 47, THE SECOND PERSON PRONOUN "YOU" IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR IN ITS REFERENCE TO NIGERIA AS OPPOSED TO ITS POSSIBLE MORE GENERAL REFERENCE TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN GENERAL. WE SUGGEST THAT "IN NIGERIA" BE ADDED AFTER THE
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PRONOUN.

16. IN PARAGRAPH 52 THE REFERENCE TO ENDING OUR EXPORTS TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE AND MILITARY FORCES DOES NOT GIVE SUFFICIENT CREDIT TO PREVIOUS POLICY ON THE MATTER. IT IMPLIES THAT, PRIOR TO THE ACTION OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, EXPORTS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT WERE GENERAL AND UNLIMITED.

17. REGARDING THE REFERENCE TO THE CONTACT GROUP ON NAMIBIA AND RESOLUTION 385, WE ARE PUZZLED BY THE WORDS "A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT TO AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA," MAYBE OUR TEXT IS GARBLED. DO YOU MEAN "A PEACEFUL ACHIEVEMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA?" ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE MIGHT BE "A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT TO THE PROBLEM OF NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE."
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